THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. This Ministry has not organized or funded any such conference in November, 2002 in Delhi.

Inclusion of private doctors in TB Control Programme

†526. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether private doctors are also proposed to be included in the TB Control Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP), guidelines have been evolved for involvement of private doctors to increase the access to TB care services in the country. Private Practioners (PPs) can involve themselves in the implementation of RNTCP through the concerned District TB Control Society through following schemes:—

1. Referral of patients.

2. Provision of Directly Observed Treatment.

3. Designated microscopy centres set up for microscopy only or for both microscopy and treatment for which commodity assistance/ commodity and financial assistance is provided.

Increase in mentally ill patients in Orissa

527. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been unabated increase in the number of mentally ill patients in all the districts of Orissa as reported in the New Indian Express, dated 19th December, 2002;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.